

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-15 have been canceled and new claims 21-27 have been added in the Amendment submitted herewith. Thus, claims 16-27 are presently pending in the application.

Support for newly added claims 21-27 can be found in the Specification and Claims as originally filed. More specifically, support for newly added claim 21 can be found at page 19, paragraph 181. Support for newly added claim 22 can be found at page 8, paragraph 74. Support for newly added claims 23-25 can be found at page 8, paragraph 74 and Tables 3A-3F (pages 11-14). Support for newly added claims 26 and 27 can be found at page 10, paragraph 96 and Tables 1-3.

II. Claims are Subject to Restriction Under 35 U.S.C. § 121

It is alleged in the Action that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- a. An open-end wrench having a polymer coating.
- b. A closed-end wrench having a polymer coating.
- c. A kit, or combination of a fastener, having a polymer coated head, and an open end-wrench, also having a polymer coating.
- d. A piston ring compressor having a polymer coating.


It is asserted that the Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Applicant hereby elects species "d" for examination in the present application, the species of which is directed to "A piston ring compressor having a polymer coating". Original claims 16-20 and new claims 21-27 read on the elected species.

It is the Applicants' belief that claims 16-27 are in condition for allowance, and action towards that effect is respectfully requested. If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned Agent at the number indicated.

The notice set a one-month period to comply, to and including March 28, 2005. Thus, this response is believed to be timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,



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